

Football Bear working hard in the Big Easy

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

For most CIS football players, getting drafted to the CFL would be the pinnacle of their athletic career. But for one lucky Golden Bear, a career in Canada is only the backup plan. Not only was Alberta's Patrick MacDonald a third-round pick in the CFL draft, he's signed a free-agent contract with the NFL's New Orleans Saints and is currently in Louisiana trying out with the team.

A walk-on recruit in 2005, MacDonald has played as both a defensive lineman and long-snapper, but it's in the latter capacity that he's so sought-after. In his two seasons here, he's never missed a snap on special teams.

MacDonald will spend the summer trying out with the Saints.

"This is the greatest opportunity I could ever have, and ever will have, probably," MacDonald said. "I'm very excited."

Bears head coach Jerry Friesen wasn't surprised that MacDonald has been getting such attention.

"He has a particular skill, and he has perfected that skill," Friesen said. "That's what makes him better than a lot of the players out there."

Though CIS has produced 23 NFL players since 1945, this is only the second time that a Golden Bear has had a chance to play for an American team. In 1976, Brian Fryer was selected in the eighth round by the Washington Redskins. Friesen thinks



FILE PHOTO: NICK WIEBE

OH, SNAP! Alberta long-snapper Patrick MacDonald has both the Calgary Stampeders and the NFL's New Orleans Saints interested in his skills.

that MacDonald's success could get more American eyes looking north for players.

"This shows really well for our program," Friesen said. "It's more profile for us. I've had several calls from NFL teams and the NFL governing office. I think it [brings attention to]

CIS, period," he said. "They see these Canadians with the special skills and maybe say, 'Hey, what have we been missing?'"

MacDonald has had a busy schedule so far, but has been enjoying himself.

"It's the experience of a lifetime. It's a completely different world out here,"

he said. "The facility is top rate, as is the training and the coaching. I hadn't really been outside of the camp and the airport area until today," he said on the phone from Bourbon Street. "It's the first time we've had some time off, so we came down to have lunch here."

If he doesn't make it past training

camp, MacDonald will come back north to the CFL.

"If things don't work out for me then of course I'll go down to play with Calgary, but for the moment that's just at the back of my mind. Right now I'm concentrating on getting on this roster."

New hoops Bear follows his father onto the court

PAUL OWEN
Managing Editor

Though he has yet to play a game for the U of A hoops squad, incoming forward James Suderman has already earned a new nickname: "Mike."

You'll have to excuse head coach Don Horwood for calling Edmonton native James by his father's name a time or two. After all, he's more familiar with the basketball exploits of the elder Suderman—who played for the Golden Bears in the mid-1980s—than those of James, whose addition makes the Sudermans the first father-son combo to play for Horwood. However, if Suderman lives up to his potential, which Horwood noted is "tremendous," he shouldn't have any trouble stepping out of his father's shadow.

"I believe James Suderman is going to be very good; how much he's going to be able to help us this first year is hard to say," Horwood said. "He's got a tremendous work ethic [and his] skills are very good. He came from Strathcona high school, where he wasn't surrounded with many good players. Consequently, he's under the radar a little bit because his team didn't play very well."

In addition to the 6'5" Suderman, Alberta also added 6'7" post Patrick Maloney from Augustana, a player who Horwood sees as a centre in the future; and 6'5" Braydon Janzen, a post from Camosun College in Victoria who played with current Bear Eric Casey in high school. The three interior players should give the Bears plenty of options to fill the void of graduated all-star Scott Gordon.

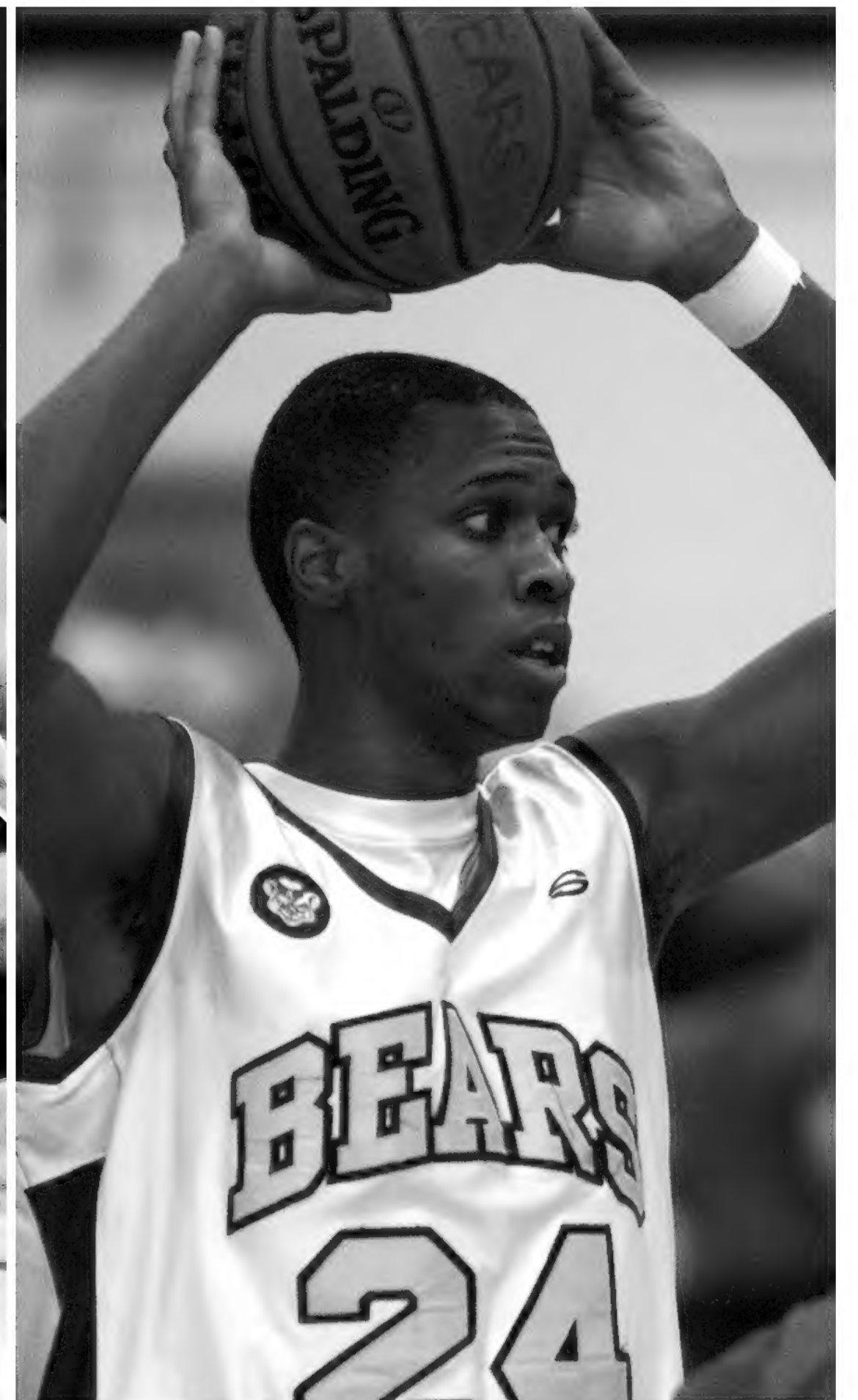
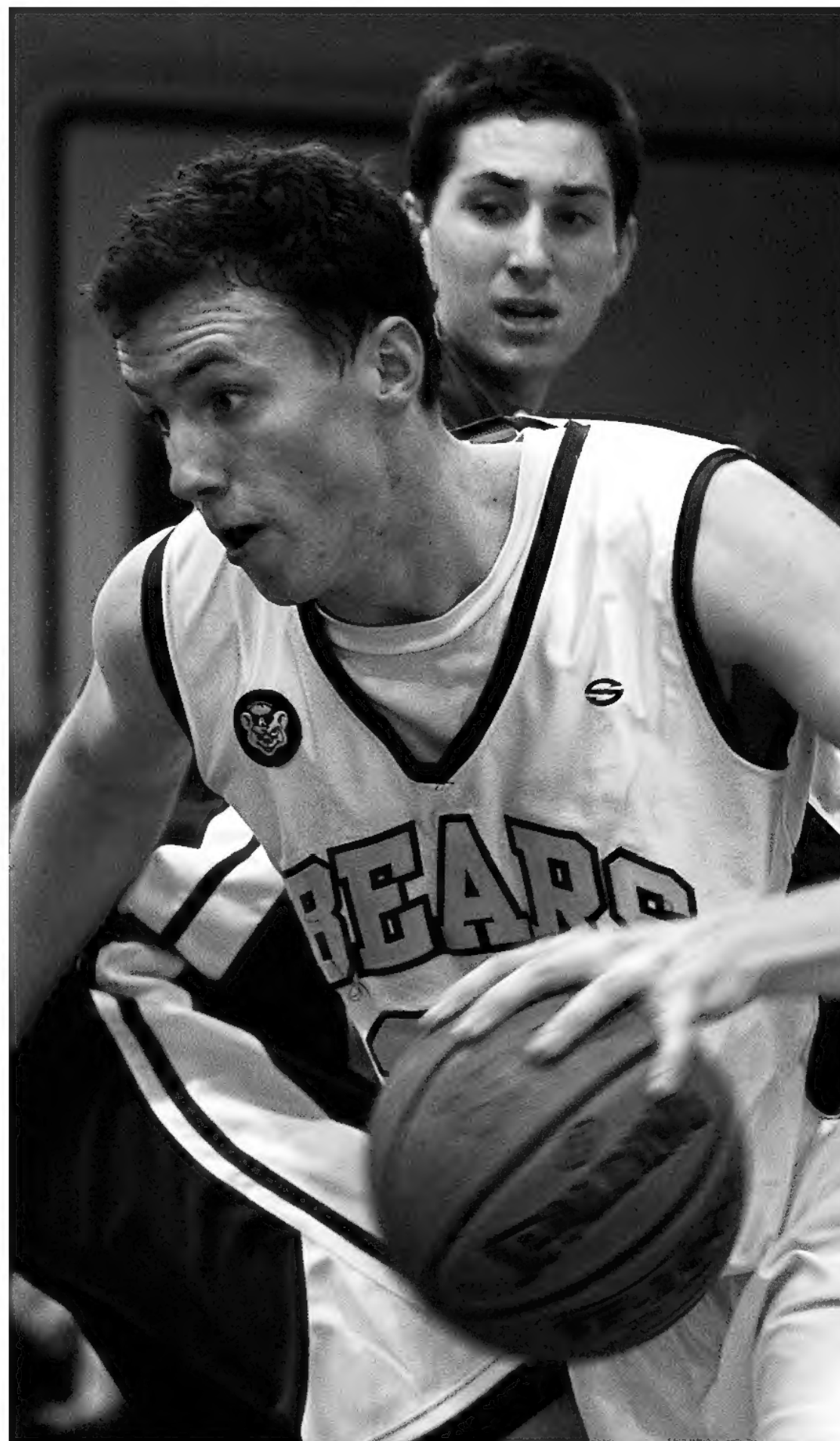
"If he can pick up where he left off at Camosun, Braydon Janzen could challenge Justin [Van Loo] and James [Suderman]—and we have Harvey Bradford in the mix there too—at the four spot. It makes us fairly deep at that spot, so it's going to be kind of a battle for playing time amongst those guys," Horwood explained.

The Bears have also nabbed German import Patrick Unger, who played last season at Grant MacEwan. Unger is a defensive stopper who will see some time as the third guard as Alberta looks to replace starter Tyson Jones, who also graduated.

"Patrick Unger is an all-purpose player; he can fit in and do whatever you need him to do," Horwood said. "He can guard a four-man; he can guard a three-man. His scoring is a little suspect—I think he has the skills to score, but I don't think he has a scorer's mentality."

The Bears also have a few options from the bench to fill Jones' shoes: Neb Aleksic and Scott Leigh will both be looking for more playing time this season, and Andrew Parker's continued improvement will ensure he gets some serious minutes this year. While the Bears had trouble replacing Jones when he was injured early last season, Horwood pointed out that it wasn't due to a lack of skill, but a lack of conditioning.

"We tested all these guys the week before they went home, so they know exactly what their weaknesses are: they're not in good enough shape to play at the CIS level. They've come from programs where they were able to get by on their athletic ability and



FILE PHOTOS: PETE YEE (LEFT), NEAL WILDING (RIGHT)

THE OLD GUARD (AND POST) Alberta have to replace departing players like Scott Gordon, left, and Tyson Jones.

skills, but at this level, the players have skills and they work hard, and we didn't work hard enough," he said.

Suderman could see big minutes backing up Van Loo, but Horwood is cautious due to Suderman's youth.

"On the highest level teams, it's

almost impossible for a kid to come in from high school and get significant minutes," Horwood admitted. "So for most high-school players, it's a trade-off: go to university and sit on the bench for a year or two, or go to college, play right away, and get some

valuable playing time. There are very few Phil Sudol or Mike Melnychuk types that can come out and make an impact at the university level right away, but there are some guys out there who, in a year or two, can be impact players."

We remember the glory and gory days of playoff hockey

SPORTS
STAFFGroup
Commentary

It's the end of spring, that time of year when a young man or woman's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of playoff hockey. For the poor, beleaguered Oilers (and Montreal Canadiens) fans here at the *Gateway*, however, indulging those thoughts isn't as easy as simply turning on the CBC. We have to think back to playoff games of yore, when men were men and Edmontonians were cheering for Chris Pronger for a reason other than wanting the Oilers to get an extra draft pick. With that in mind, here are our picks for most memorable playoff hockey moments.

Trevor Phillips

There have been many epic battles in the history of the world—David vs Goliath, Achilles vs Hector, and Bob Barker vs Happy Gilmore to name a few—but these pale in comparison to John Vanbiesbrouck vs Patrick Roy, on 10 June, 1996. The Beezer against St Patrick was simply the greatest display of goaltending ever, regardless of the context. During game four of the '96 Stanley Cup Final, the duo battled shot for shot for three overtime periods before Uwe Krupp destroyed my childhood on the 119th shot of the night, a blast from the right point, to give the A's a 1-0 victory.

You see, back in 1996, there wasn't much to cheer for in Edmonton. The Oilers hadn't made the playoffs since 1993, and expansion had given fans everywhere a chance to cheer for new teams. The Florida Panthers were the team that I picked.

In 1996, the Year of the Rat, lead by a mixed bag of character guys—Mellanby, Skrudland, Barnes, and Jovonovski—the Panthers battled their way to the Final, only to be swept by the budding powerhouse from Mile High. Still, that playoff run captured this young fan's dream to follow a team through a thrilling two-month post-season ride, and wouldn't be equaled for me until ten years later.

That series also gave us the best snapshot in playoff history. That year, after the Panthers scored in the old Miami arena, fans would flood the ice with rubber rats. While most goalies would take refuge in the net, Roy stood and took the pelting of faux-rodents for the entire delay, and took it with pride—a great moment in pro sports.

Adam Gaumont

My most beloved and most painful playoff memory came, on Monday, 21 April, 1997. It was the Oilers' first series against the Dallas Stars—the one they went on to win, of course, in game seven. But I'm not here to talk about Todd Marchant's overtime heroics—I'm here to talk about *Kelly Buchberger's* overtime heroics.

I was not quite 14. It was my first (and probably last) stint as a babysitter. I was somehow cold-hearted enough to have sent my young charges to bed after the third period (though, in my defense, I left the radio on for them), so it was just me alone in the

basement. Of a split-level. With a seven-foot ceiling.

The Oilers had just completed the most improbable of comebacks, tying it in the last four minutes of the game despite having been down 3–0. Weight, Kovalenko, and Grier had all scored—now it was Bucky's turn.

It's nine minutes into overtime: Mats Lindren swoops into the Stars' zone. He gets rocked head over heels by the Dallas defender, but not before making a sweet little drop pass to the trailing Buchberger. Bucky wheels in from the right side and whips a wrister past the glove of Andy Moog.

Still pumped from the frenzied third-period comeback, I leapt off the couch, arms pumped high in true hooligan style. Well, not that high—remember the seven-foot ceiling? It abruptly halted the rapid ascension of my clenched fists. I doubled over, my hands bloodied but intact, relishing the sweet taste of victory and picking bits of stucco out of my skin.

Hey, if I've said it once, I've said it a thousand times: being an Oilers fan ain't easy.

Steve Smith

I have many fond playoff memories: watching game seven in 1987, aware of little more than that the winner of this game won the Stanley Cup; having my junior high-school principal burst into our dorm room to tell us that Kelly Buchberger had just capped one of the greatest comebacks in playoff history in game three against the 1997 Stars, mere moments after telling us to shut up and go to sleep; reading about last year's game six victory against the Hurricanes from my girlfriend's sister's internet connection in Nuremberg; and having my entire high-school assembly burst into a spontaneous chant of “Bell-foouurr” for no apparent reason. Consequently, the task of designating my favourite playoff memory ought to be a hard one.

But any Oilers fan of my generation who identifies any moment other than the 1997 Marchant goal as his/her favourite is lying. That year, remember, marked the end of the Oilers' five-year playoff drought—one that had lasted a third of my life. Expectations had been lowered, and the Oilers putting up bargain-basement lineups consisting of guys named Ilya Byakin and Bob Beers had become normal and expected.

Then they returned to the playoffs, faced arguably the best team in hockey, and, through a series of miracles, found themselves in overtime in game seven.

The puck somehow made its way to Todd Marchant, who skated right around Grant Ledyard for what I would conservatively estimate as the eight billionth breakaway of his career. This one, unlike all of the others, resulted in a goal. Listening to Rod Phillips call it, I could hear Glen Sather whooping in the background—the only time I'd ever heard him excited.

There have been other upsets since then, of course, but this one just seemed more impossible. That year, I was convinced the Oilers were going to get swept; not long after I was taking guys named Scott Fraser in my playoff pools. That win brought back all of our expectations.

With the Ducks in the finals this year, I'll be cheering for them. As an Oilers fan, I figure that Pronger

vs Comrie's a wash. But Marchant vs McAmmond? No contest.

Robin Collum

My most vivid playoff memory is a sad one. Two years ago, the U of A hosted CIS men's hockey Nationals, and both the Bears and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies made it to the final.

Now, usually I'm as big a Pandas and Bears fan as the next person on this campus (or more so, seeing how I actually go to their games), but not that year. You see, one of my cousins was the Huskies starting goalie, so I was sitting with a large contingent of my extended family in the tiny Saskatchewan section of the stands (which consisted of us, some frat boys dressed in all green, and another player's family, including a small child in really cute green socks and a wee Huskies sweatshirt).

It had been an excellent, fast-paced game, and near the end of the third, the Huskies were leading 3–2. My cousin had made some great saves, and as the final minutes ticked away, our section of the stands was ready to celebrate.

That's when everything went terribly wrong for us: with a minute left to go, Alberta pulled their goalie and mounted a last-ditch attack. Somehow—perhaps through black magic—Ben Thomson got his stick on the puck and sent a wicked slapshot just over my cousin's shoulder. With twenty-three seconds left, Alberta had tied the game. Our small section of the stands was suddenly very quiet, but the rest of Rexall made up for our silence by going absolutely nuts.

Five minutes into overtime, Thomson was the villain again, as he grabbed a rebound off one of my cousin's saves and put in the winner for Alberta.

It was a great game, and from an unbiased (or a U of A) perspective, Thompson scored two really good goals, but for me and the small pocket of green around me, it totally sucked.

Paul Owen

When it comes to NHL playoff moments, there's one that sticks out in my mind the most; in fact, I remember it as if it were last year. That was when Andrew Ladd went all Tonya Harding on Dwayne Roloson in the first game of the Stanley Cup Finals, leaving Rolie the Goalie squirming on the ground in pain—and Oilers fans' hopes in the toilet.

Perhaps the rest of the game, like Ty Conklin's behind-the-net excursion to hockey hell, would stand out in my mind as well, but I blacked out with rage and despair after Osama Bin Ladd-en left the Oilers with the same goaltending situation that had made them to miss the playoffs in 2003/04, and stumble into the post-season last year. It's not that I had no confidence in the Conkannen combo—I was completely confident that they were going to blow it for the Oilers. It's not my fault that's exactly what happened.

Being a Winnipeg Jets fan in the early '90s was hardly conducive to long playoff runs, so my first experience of with one was with the 2005/06 Edmonton Oilers. It's just a shame that such a great stretch of playoff hockey was derailed by a runaway former Hitman.

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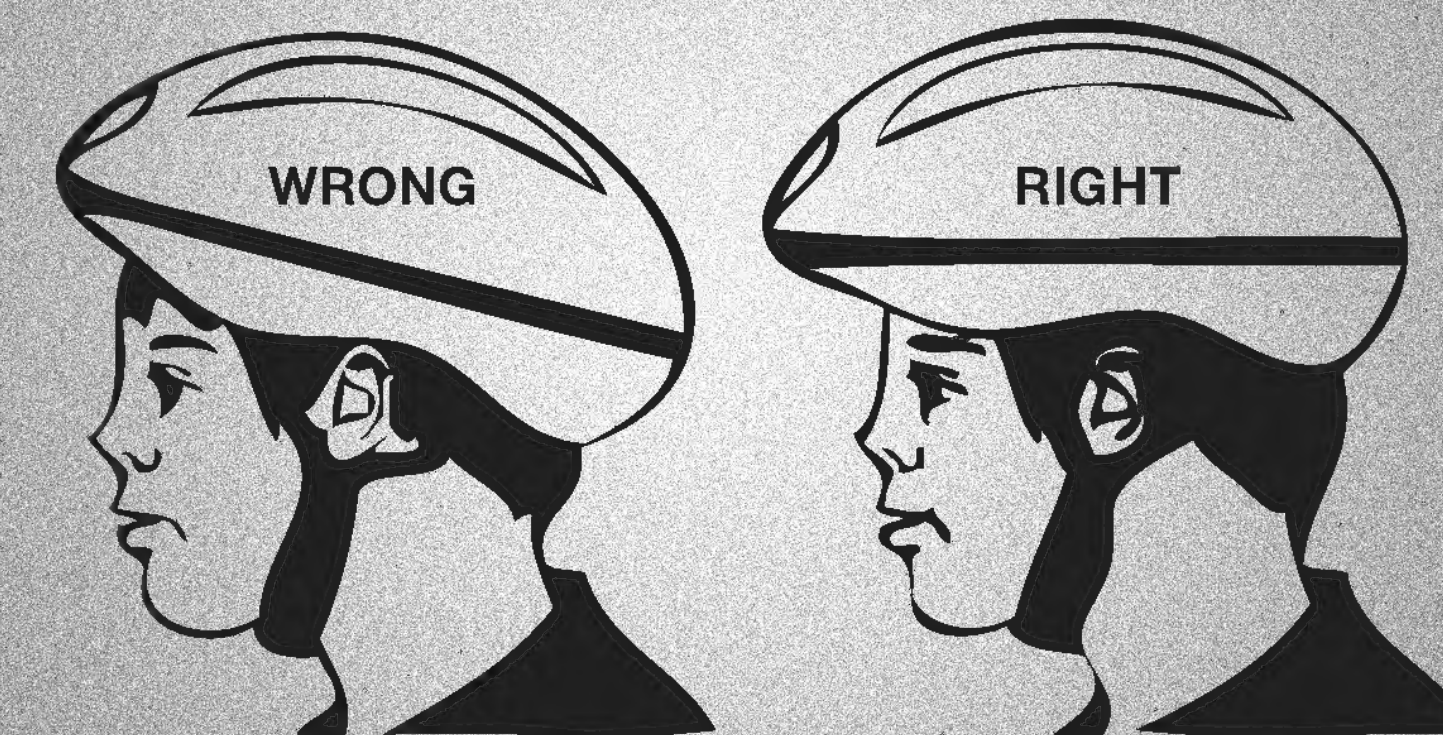
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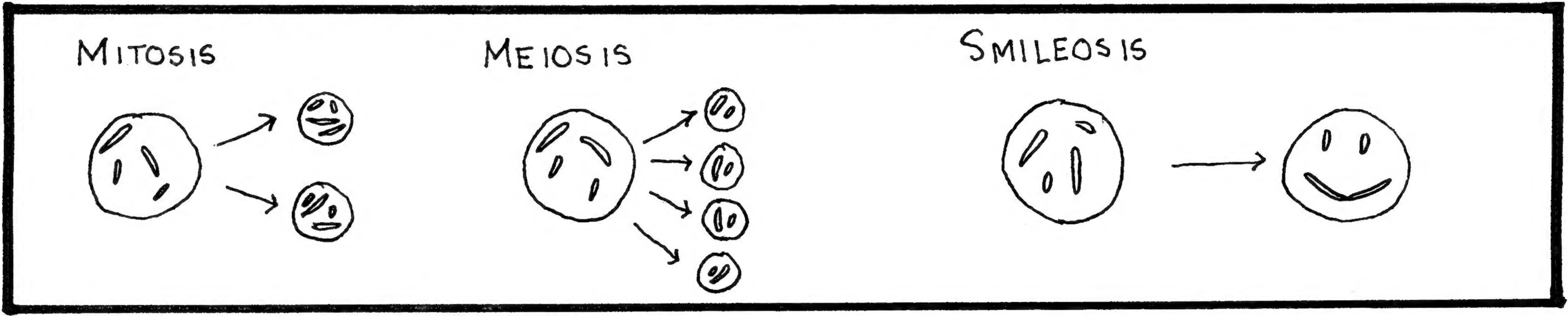
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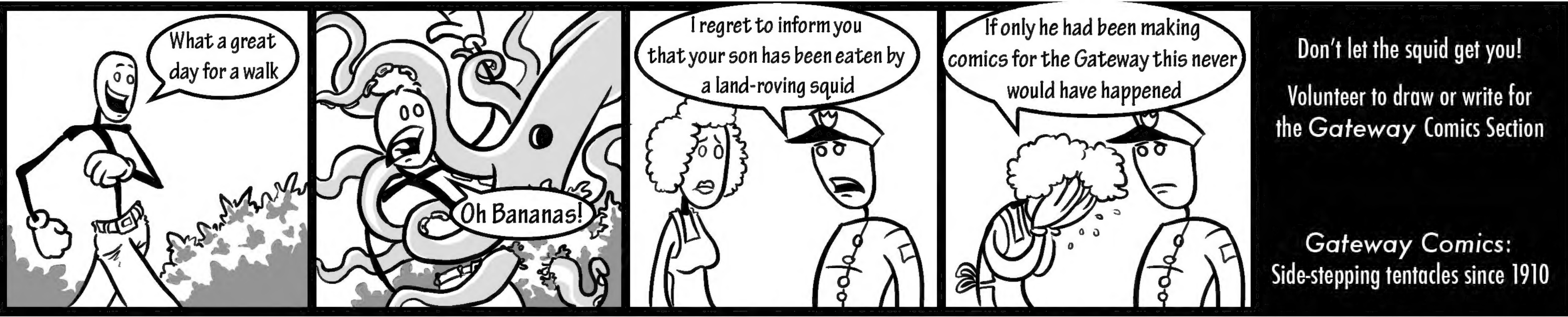
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THE GATEWAY

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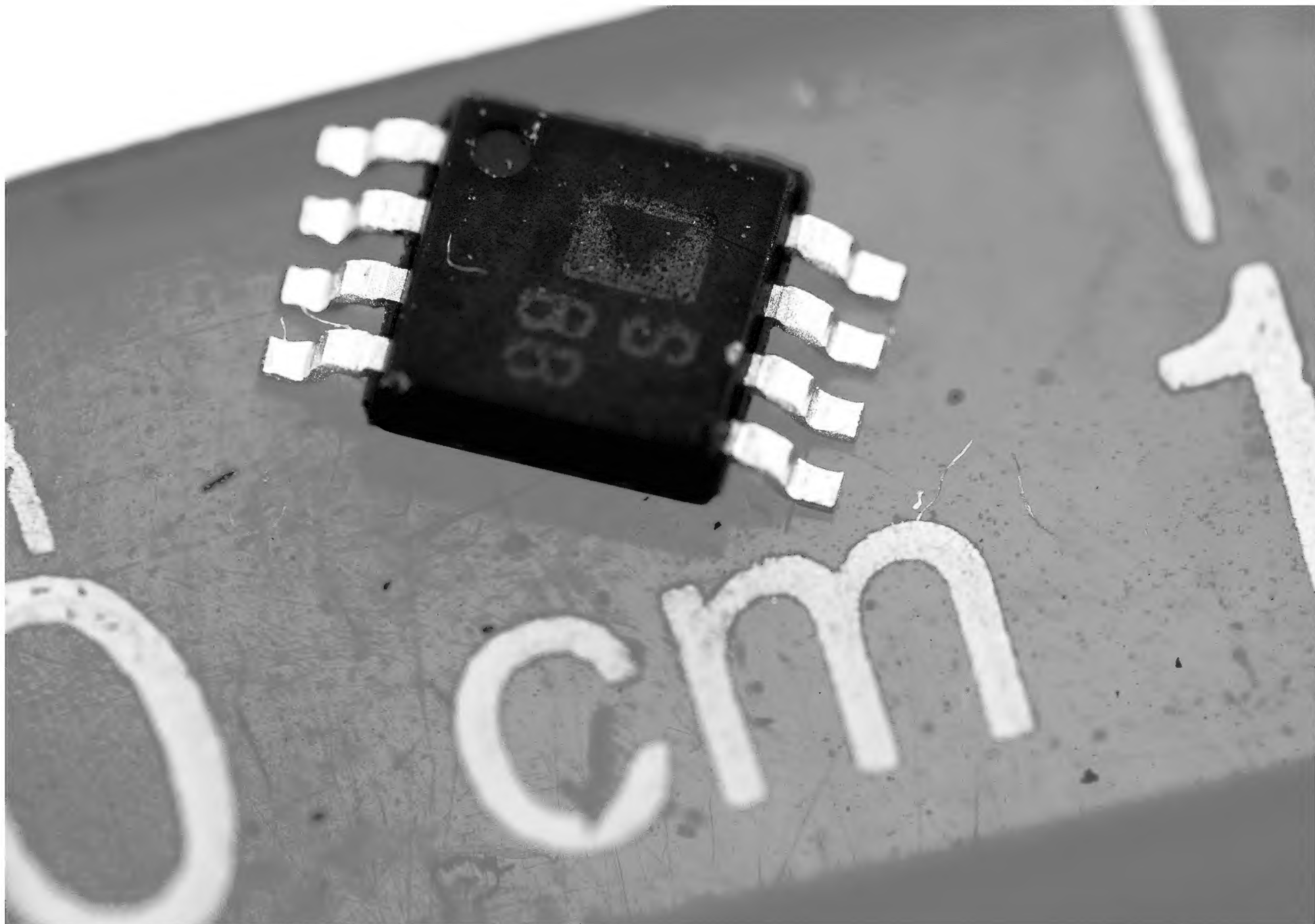


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: WEIYANG LIU

YOU THINK THIS IS SMALL? Thanks to a grant from the Alberta government, NINT will be able to produce increasingly smaller devices. See page 4 for the story.

U of A secures patents

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

A proposed new Patent Policy was ratified Tuesday by 62.9 per cent of the University of Alberta Association of Academic Staff (AAS:UA) membership. However, concerns surrounding its implementation remain.

The most significant change under the new policy, which still needs to be ratified by the University Board of Governors, surrounds Clause 2. It states that there will be rebuttable presumption that all inventions, so long as they fall within the inventor's area of research and regardless of where and for whom they were invented are now covered by the University's Patent Policy.

Mechanical Engineering professor and former AAS:UA executive member Lorenz Sigurdson said this change has been a point of concern for some in his faculty.

PLEASE SEE PATENTS ♦ PAGE 3

New CAUS exec named Metis database launched

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

Provincial postsecondary lobbying may have a new face, but its goals—affordable tuition, affordable housing, and reforming the student loan program—will continue to be at the forefront of its policy.

Mike Selnes, University of Calgary Students' Union Vice-President (External), has been selected as the new Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) Chair, succeeding University of Alberta Student Councillor Dave Cournoyer.

"Dave did an excellent job last year, and I look to build on what he's done," Selnes said from his Calgary office.

CAUS currently represents over 70 000 students from the U of A, U of C, and the University of Lethbridge. Made up of members from each institution as well as an Executive Director, the organization operates as an advocacy group at the provincial level with the aim of increasing the quality of PSE for all students, but does not have any ties to national PSE advocacy.

"Regardless of where the chair comes from, the position is [meant] to represent all of Alberta's students," Selnes explained. "It's great when the chair is able to move between different institutions as it gives all Albertan students a chance to serve in this position."

U of A SU Vice-President (External) Steven Dollansky, who will take on the roll of CAUS

Vice-Chair, is excited about Selnes's appointment.

"I'm looking forward to having Calgary more involved. It really encourages more communication between the three schools because all the decisions go through Calgary and then Lethbridge and ourselves."

While the previous council released documents such as *Where to from Here?*, a strategic plan for PSE reform, they struggled to make any significant inroads with the provincial government due to the selection of a new Premier within the Conservative party.

"Last year was difficult for CAUS with the [provincial leadership] changeover," Selnes explained. "Working with the government now and bringing our issues forth to them and having some consistency will really benefit both sides."

Dollansky echoed Selnes's sentiments, saying that "this government is trying to prove itself under a new leader, and investment in postsecondary education is a direction that they're going to want to pursue."

Both Selnes and Dollansky explained that with the high possibility of a provincial election next spring, CAUS will be devoting much of its efforts this year to developing an effective campaign to bring postsecondary issues back to the forefront of provincial politics for politicians and voters.

"[Postsecondary education is] a very important sector for the province," Selnes said. "I think this is the year Albertans will realize that, and I'm very confident we'll make some gains this year."

Compiling of historical records opens up past for Native culture

MELISSA LI SHEUNG YING
News Writer

Meika Taylor never realized that her great-great grandparents were Metis—that is, until her mom entered the family's history into the Metis National Council Historical Online Database.

Launched on 4 May, the database's primary intention is to allow Metis community members the chance to research their genealogies. It's part of the Metis National Council's National Research Initiative, and used three years of extensive research by the Metis Archival Project (MAP) team based at the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta.

The database uses textual information extracted from archived documents collected from across the country as well as scans of historical documents and high-resolution pictures, making it unlike any other database on the web.

The U of A research team consisted of undergraduate and graduate students lead by principal investigator Dr Frank Tough. He also played a key role in encouraging individuals like Taylor, MAP's Project Coordinator, to become involved during and after her undergraduate degree.

"It was really exciting to get to apply some of the [writing and researching] skills that you learn in university ... to be able to go out into the archives and do some hands-on research," Taylor said.

Erin McGregor, MAP's Research Coordinator, agreed that undergraduate students' involvement

in research is a positive thing, especially if it interests them on a personal level.

"Undergraduates in applied research bring a specific skill set to the table—[the writing and research] skills you learn during your Arts degree. If you have a background different from Arts, it's statistical analysis, quantitative or qualitative research ... in this environment it takes those skills and pushes them out into the real world," McGregor explained.

She went on to say that the database is accessible to an audience ranging from school-curriculum developers and researchers to secondary students and the Metis public. Familiarity with computers isn't a requirement, and the database doesn't exclude individuals of non-Metis ancestry.

"The database as an educational tool for people to learn about Metis history is unparalleled," McGregor said. "[It's for] all age groups."

"It also raises the profile for the Faculty of Native Studies, which is a very small faculty here at the U of A, in that important research doesn't have to occur in large faculties—it can occur in other grassroots levels as well."

Reaching various audiences has contributed to a successful outcome for the project indicating to the MAP team that their work is being appreciated.

"The feedback so far from [the community] has been very encouraging ... It certainly lets us know that we're on the right track," McGregor said.

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Hot and unbothered

Italian band Lacuna Coil is ready and willing to headline the Hottest Chicks in Metal Tour, for all the right reasons.

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Bear hits the big time

While you're stuck on campus, footballer Patrick MacDonald is training with the New Orleans Saints.

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files that are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **FENICE**, **Joanna**, **Kepler** and **Whitney**. The *Manitoban* is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are *Starcraft* and the *Halo 3 Beta*.

contributors

Melissa Li Sheung Ying, Olesia Plokhii, Sarah Treit, Trevor Phillips, Michelle Chan, Patrick Ross, Ross Lockwood, Vishaal Rajani, Megan Simka, Fish Griwkawski, Marie-Annick Jean, Leah Trueblood, Nicole Cargill, Weiyang Liu, Phil Head, Steffi Roskopf, Tara Stieglitz, Pete Yee, Neal Wilding, Nick Wiebe.

COUNCIL FORUM

Ryan Heise
Deputy News Editor

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 29 May.

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS

The only major matter of business that came out of the 15 May council meeting was the passing of a policy regarding deferred maintenance. President Michael Janz and Vice-President (External) Steven Dollansky moved that council lobby the Government of Alberta to commit immediate one-time funding to deal with deferred maintenance at the University of Alberta, along with providing funding for maintenance on an ongoing basis. However, they said they would also pressure the University administration to avoid shifting the cost of covering maintenance costs onto students' fees.

Previously, the University has raised residence rent by ten per cent and increased parking prices to help cover the cost of deferred maintenance.

Janz said that the current bill for deferred maintenance at the University is between \$600-900 million.

While not much debate surrounded the policy, the issue of whether or not

“It absolutely astounds me that the Strathcona County people, St Albert people, and Edmonton people have such a hard time working together. I can't wait to sign [the U-Pass contract] so I never have to go back there again.

deferred maintenance was a legitimate issue for the SU to lobby on came up, as it's not something directly tied to students. However, the idea that the cost of maintenance must not fall to students took precedence, and the motion to adopt the policy was passed and referred to the External Policy Committee for drafting.

Following the meeting, Dollansky explained that the policy will help the SU gain a level of clarity for the situation.

“It provides direction for the Executive to lobby on the issue and to establish a strategy to work with the University to try and improve the deferred maintenance deficit on campus.”

GREASING THE INVISIBLE SKY-TUBES

While not an item listed on the standing orders, President Janz briefly spoke with the Gateway following the meeting regarding the current state of wireless internet access in SUB.

Towards the end of their term, last year's SU recognized that there were serious issues affecting the reliability of

SUB's WiFi and were taking measures to address it. Janz was quick to assure that this year's executive is already looking into the problems.

“It's definitely something we're working on,” he stated, continuing that it's hard to diagnose the specific issues in the summer when there is significantly lighter usage of the system.

“Our goal is that the wireless should be working on the main level, at all times, in all the spaces,” Janz explained. “It may mean that we need to buy a couple of access points or that we need to review some of the protocol.”

While the issue of wireless internet on the main floor was being addressed, it was discovered that RATT had an inactive access point. Janz said that getting it up and running was a priority for the SU.

“RATT is open for the summer, and we're trying to sell it. What better way than having functional wireless so students and professors who want to have a drink on a summer afternoon can go up and chill out and have access to the Internet?”

STEVEN DOLLANSKY
SU VP (External)

on attending a U-Pass meeting

QUESTION PERIOD

Janz was asked a question regarding campus security in the wake of the shooting at Virginia Tech. He explained that the University needed to take preventative measures in dealing with student safety and not just be reactive. This doesn't just entail acts of violence, he continued, but also health issues, citing last year's Norwalk virus outbreak. Janz concluded that, while it isn't the SU's direct responsibility to deal with safety issues, the Executive will work closely with the University to ensure students have a safe environment on campus.

A question regarding what exactly the University Senate does was posed. VP Dollansky, who sits on the Senate, fielded it, explaining that the Senate's main roll is in community relations. They deal with things such as high-school recruitment and alumni relations. When asked a follow-up about whether having an SU representative sit on the Senate was a waste of resources, Dollansky said that having influence at any level is good for Council.

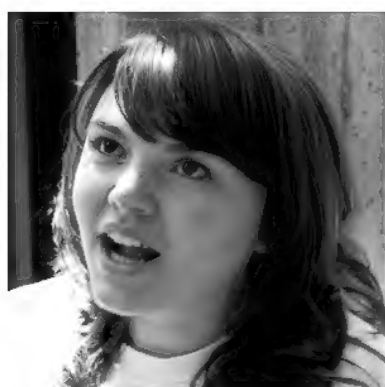
STREETERS

Some professors have started podcasting lectures.

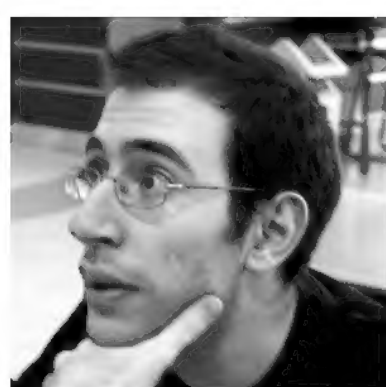
If your professors uploaded audio versions of lectures to the Internet, would you take advantage of it?



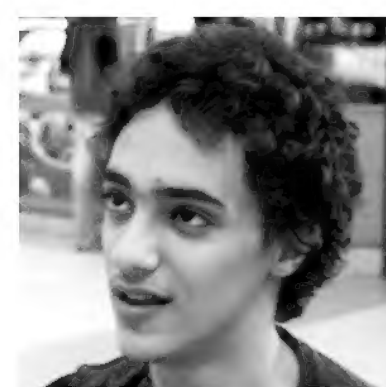
Melissa Quarrie
Sciences I



Maura Frunza
Arts I



Hamza Alshariea
Extension



Omar Zarro
Chemical Engineering IV

Yes I would. Then I wouldn't have to go to class as much. Some profs just take their questions right out of their notes.

I'd totally use the podcasts. And if [the profs] are technologically un-handicapped, they could be video podcasts and you wouldn't miss anything at all. But the best would be for classes where the profs just dictate to you anyway. If they're doing that, why not just listen to it on your iPod?

I think it's a good idea. It's going to be more convenient for students.

That would be fun. Actually, that's great. I'd still go to class, but it's a chance to hear it more than once. One of my profs actually had his own recorded lecture on his website, and I listened to that. I found it very helpful.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Ryan Heise



Doctors bare it all for global relief

OLEZIA PLOKHII
News Staff

For the past few weeks, members of the local medical community have been peeling off their scrubs and posing for a global fundraising cause.

Two dozen medical and dental students from the University of Alberta, along with local health professionals and doctors, have recently finished modelling nude for 25 local artists to create over 40 art pieces in a range of stylistic mediums and body forms.

Participants will be donating the portraits to a silent auction that takes place today at the Red Strap Market, with proceeds going towards the Change for Children's Community Health project in El Salvador and similar aid-relief campaigns funded by International Health Initiatives.

Event organizer and artist Roger Garcia and his family have been working with Change for Children for ten years. Garcia said that this year's event—called Doctors and Derrières—is unique because 100 per cent of the funds will go directly to improving the daily lives of El Salvadorians plagued with flooding rivers caused by recent earthquakes.

"This project is really cool because [due to the flooding] people there don't have access to roads. They live right next to a river that always floods," Garcia explained. "These people continue to live there, so this money is going [towards] enabling sick people to have access to medical staff, who will take them to a hospital."

Last year was the first year of the auction with all the proceeds going to rebuilding a school and working with destitute children Zambia. Other medical students dedicated their time and money to build healthier communities in



SUPPLIED: GERRY RASMUSSEN

Kenya and India.

David Rydz, a student from the U of A's medical class of 2008 and former nude model for the event, said that the concept of raising money in such a revealing fashion helps dispel negative stereotypes about medical professionals and shows a softer side of the sciences.

"It's a little more interesting for people because medical students have a stereotype around them," Rydz said. "I mean, if you got a bunch of frat boys to pose nude, it just wouldn't be the same thing—people wouldn't be surprised. It's unfortunate that med students get portrayed as 'by the books' and 'straight-edged.'"

Patent policy may draw faculties' anger

University's control of patents for on-campus developments a rare occurrence

PATENTS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I don't know of any university that has a 'rebuttable presumption' that the university's automatically a participant in your area of research," Sigurdson said, noting that, if implemented, it would apply equally to students.

"This is a tremendous change from [the old policy]—particularly the course of their activities with outside bodies. The concern there is that it can dampen the culture of innovation that everyone would like to have, because there is always concern from an outside party that the University is automatically a partner."

Deborah Holloway, Communications Officer for the University's Vice-President (Research), explained that the Administration isn't in a position to comment on the proposed new Patent Policy until it's been ratified by the Board of Governors, and that while no date had been set as of press time, the policy will likely go before the Board at their 22 June meeting. However, on the AAS:UA website, the University defends the new policy as having addressed "a number of gaps in the old policy."

Sigurdson noted that the inclusion of students under the policy has raised some concerns that it might negatively impact student co-op programs.

"Students typically assign invention rights to the sponsoring company," he said. "There is concern that that would be changed and that it would hamper the interaction with the out-

side company."

Despite the possible impact on students, Graduate Students' Association (GSA) President Julie Charchun said that there hasn't been much discussion of the new policy.

"I don't know of any university that has a 'rebuttable presumption' that the university's automatically a participant in your area of research."

**LORENZ SIGURDSON,
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PROF**

"From the GSA's standpoint, we haven't heard a lot from grad students with concerns about patents," Charchun said. "It is relevant for us; we are going to be watching what happens with this vote, and I mean it is important for grad students to retain as much intellectual property rights as possible."

While Charchun also noted that there was the potential of the policy impacting co-op programs, she stressed that, as of yet, it was unclear what that impact might be.

"If it's going to affect grad students, it would probably tend to be more

grad students in faculties such as engineering or medicine, or agriculture, forestry—those types of departments where patents are more likely."

Mark Morris, who will officially begin his term as Visiting Scholar in Residence in the Faculty of the Arts on 1 July, 2007, agreed with Charchun that the patent policy was unlikely to be felt across campus, and said he saw it having virtually no impact in the humanities.

"By-and-large, patents aren't a question in the humanities," Morris said, while pointing out that many of his colleagues were "keeping an eye on it" because of a worry that such a policy might hypothetically be extended into University copyright law.

Morris considered whether or not including students in the policy is appropriate and an ethically debatable question, however.

"I think the relationship of a student to a university is very different from the relationship of somebody who's been hired by the university," Morris said, adding that, while he had no problems with the policy itself, he felt it raised question of whether it's healthy for universities to start to becoming businesses.

"This kind of patent-law rules at the University is part and parcel with the whole movement to make the universities commercially exploit what's discovered in the universities—that's very recent, and the great tradition in Western humanist universities has been precisely not to do that."

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THE GATEWAY

The Gateway is hiring a Circulation Public Affairs Liaison (Circulation PAL)

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- mailing out all issues of the *Gateway* to subscribers every two weeks,
- sorting incoming newspapers and other publications and displaying them neatly in the *Gateway* offices, and
- coordinating collation of the year's issues of the *Gateway* for the production of bound editions at the end of the year.

The successful applicant will:

- be reliable and hard-working with excellent organization and time-management skills,
- be available Tuesday and Thursday mornings and early afternoons (meaning no classes before 2pm on those days),
- possess a valid driver's license and be able to produce a clean driver's abstract, and
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The position requires ten hours per week (less if you're speedy), runs from September 1, 2007 until 30 April, 2008, and pays \$329.96 per month. We are seeking to fill this position immediately, and will close the position as soon as we find an acceptable candidate.

For further information or to apply, contact
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biz@gateway.ualberta.ca



Peak oil film no barrel of laughs

OLESIA PLOKHII
News Staff

Edmontonians concerned with the growing peak-oil crisis threatening global sustainability met on 16 May for an advanced screening of *Escape from Suburbia: Beyond the American Dream*. The film follows the lives of individuals changing the way they live in what they consider to be an unsustainable, oil-thirsty 21st century.

Edmonton was just one of several cities that took part in the screening, which was organized by Public Interest Alberta—a province-wide organization focused on education and advocacy.

The evening also included a panel of local speakers with a vested interest in environmental initiatives aimed at easing the life-altering ramifications associated with peak oil.

Don Iveson, Ward 5 electoral hopeful stressed the need for Alberta's citizens to be more environmentally responsible and to demand a redesign of their economy.

"How are we going to live in the 21st century without oil?" Iveson asked. "Well, it's going to be people-scaled, with local, walkable, trans-oriented transport-neighborhoods. If you really think that change is good, I need you to tell your friends and get them to tell their friends [about peak oil]."

Peak oil occurs when the efficiency of oil production is maximized, meaning it will only become less productive from that point on. The film strives to prove that the American government, along with other administrations, have been negligent in informing their citizens of the need to adapt their lifestyles to survive in a world that is powered on finite resources.

David Parker, a representative for the Green Party of Canada, offered the audience a chance to influence public policy on the issue of peak oil by voting for the party's proposed green tax shift, which would see a more stringent tax levied on oil producers in an effort to regulate emissions.

"Governments have been taxing the things that are good for us and exempting the things that are bad," Parker stated. "We've got to completely reverse that policy."



PHIL HEAD

FINITE FUELS Bill Moore-Kilgannon warns of the perils of being addicted to oil.

The film predicts that oil will become so scarce that it will be divided only amongst the richest nations in the world. Consequently, the price of gas will rise so drastically that all facets of life will be affected.

Echoing views voiced by other speakers, Liberal Party MLA Bruce Miller urged people to get involved politically to ensure Alberta's future. Miller said that the Province's prosperity is currently being impeded with congested roads, expanding oilsands, and resource exploitation.

"I think we're going to need some kind of grassroots political-protest movement [to make a difference]," Miller said. "If we don't start investing in alternative energy sources, we're going to miss a huge opportunity."

"I think there is amazing political potential in Alberta, and with awareness, we can turn things around."

According to statistics presented in the film, 34 per cent of the largest oil producers in the world are currently declining in production, suggesting that they've already hit peak oil. It also argues that since North Americans import 66 per cent of the oil they use—much of it from Alberta's steadily depleting oilsands—people will need

to create new ways to interact, move, and feed themselves.

Executive Director of Public Interest Alberta Bill Moore-Kilgannon added that, although Albertans are already having difficulty affording oil and gas today, they haven't seen the worst of what's to come if the world's population continues to use up oil readily.

"[Oil] is expensive now, but just wait three years and see how expensive it's going to be," he said.

The film examines various alternative energy sources that could be used to ease the reliability on oil. These include non-conventional methods of energy production such as hydrogen and bio-methane, as well as substituting bicycles for cars. But most importantly, the film emphasizes building local, environmentally-friendly habitats centred on cultivating community gardens or biospheres to alleviate rising food prices related to an insufficient supply of oil.

"What are we going to do about it?" Moore-Kilgannon asked. "Are we going to leave our heads stuck in the tar sands thinking that everything is going to carry on as is, or we can look around and say that we need to find a whole bunch of creative solutions?"

, and

The Oxford comma.

— A nerdy grammatical convention that most people outside of newspaper editors probably won't care about.

Want to improve your writing, learn crazy grammatical rules, and have an all-around grammatically correct time? Then head up to SUB 3-04 and ask for Natalie or Ryan to delve into the grammatically *awesome* world of *Gateway News*!

THE GATEWAY

Arguing about comma usage since 1910.

NINT aims small with big funding

SARAH TREIT
News Writer

In response to the Stelmach government's announcement that it plans to pump \$130 million into nanotechnology research, the University of Alberta is starting to attract a lot of attention and top researchers to its National Institute for Nanotechnology (NINT).

The province's decision, announced on 2 May, aims to take hold of the nanotechnology market by investing in research, commercialization and product development, and recruitment of top scientists to institutions like NINT.

Dr Richard McCreery, a leading American chemist, recently joined the team at NINT as a Principal Investigator and Alberta Ingenuity Scholar. He left Ohio State University, where he was a faculty member for 32 years, to pursue opportunities in Canada.

"Here, not only do you have a university and a national lab, you have a province with billion-dollar budget surpluses," McCreery said. "If you talk to a typical American academic scientist, they will say that they are spending more and more time looking for money. Well,

I don't need to spend time looking for money. I've got to do science and teach and deal with students."

McCreery conducts research on molecular electronics, a field that works towards using molecules to replace silicon in electronic components. This could potentially circumvent the fundamental size limitations of silicon and create electronic devices that are faster, cheaper, use less power, and have a greater memory capacity.

"We've done some nice things with silicon, and I don't think silicon is going to go away. But chemists know that molecules have all kinds of different energy levels and all kinds of shapes and sizes and all kinds of potential purposes ... [and] if I play my cards right, then I can get these functions."

McCreery added that one of the fundamental advantages of using molecules in place of silicon is that there are ten million molecules to choose from, whereas silicon is a uniform crystal structure. Moreover, the use of molecules has potential applications, such as biological sensing, that are currently impossible using silicon.

Integrating molecules that are only

1–2 nanometres in diameter (a nanometre is one billionth of a metre) into electronics is no easy task and can't be done in any ordinary lab. The labs at NINT are state-of-the-art "clean rooms" that prevent contamination by dust particles, which are about 1000 nm on average. A clean room has around 100 dust particles per cubic meter—a significant improvement over the 1 000 000 particles per cubic metre in a typical room.

McCreery is optimistic that the field of molecular electronics will bear significant results.

"It is something which has enough headroom to it that it may have lots of different applications, just like silicon did when it was figured out in 1946. People knew it was going to be important, but they had no idea what it was going to end up doing."

McCreery lauded NINT as a leader in nanotechnology, and is confident that new ground will be broken here.

"I firmly believe that significant things will happen, but whether they are the ones that we imagined, I don't know; I don't have a crystal ball. It's certainly true that there is enormous potential here."

Canada needs to stop self-high-fiving

WHEN THE OTTAWA SENATORS TAKE ON THE Anaheim Ducks in the Stanley Cup Finals, they might as well turn their customary black and red jerseys to red and white. After all, for the third straight season, a Canadian squad will be carrying the hopes of a nation on its back as it attempts to bring Lord Stanley's Mug back to the country where it belongs. Of course, that doesn't change the fact that "Canada's Team" is a complete load of horseshit.

I mean, in this situation you're just cheering for a collection of Canadian, American, Russian, Czech and Swedish players from one city over a collection of Canadian, American, Russian, Swedish, Finnish and Czech players in the next. This is hardly a big surprise though: Canadians love nothing more than rallying behind their countrymates in a desperate attempt to force a National Identity, even if it's nothing more than that of the country whose capital city is home to the NHL champs.

Frankly, the incessant need that Canadians feel to point out the triumphs of other Canadians to yet more Canadians—lest fellow Canucks miss out on the fact that Nickelback was nominated for a Grammy or that Mike Myers has yet another Shrek movie out—is quite annoying. We tend to act like every great thing that a Canadian does reflects positively on our entire culture, when, in actuality, it merely increases that individual's reputation.

These things might be relevant if we were in an international competition to see which country's actors earned the most on average in Hollywood or if Nickelback were competing in the music Olympics or something, but when they aren't sporting the Maple Leaf, then who cares if Céline Dion is Canadian? Only all the American males who went to Vegas and were dragged to her show, that's who. Pointing out that Canadians have done something at some point in history makes us seem like the attention-starved little sibling that desperately wants their parents to pin their kindergarten drawing onto the fridge and say, "Good job." Hearing about the success of someone who happened to be born in the same country as you shouldn't make you feel good.

The same goes for a hockey team. Ottawa winning the Cup isn't going to make Toronto fans any less sore about their 40-year drought, anymore than it'll make Montreal fans okay with trading away Patrick Roy, Oilers fans less bitter about this past season, or Winnipeg and Quebec fans cool with losing their squads. There hasn't even been anything inspiring about this year's Senators. Sure, they've been dominant, but with the exception of Alfredsson's performance in game five of the Buffalo series, they haven't had a single memorable moment.

So you'll have to excuse me if Ottawa's inclusion in the Cup finals doesn't cause me to whip out my BlackBerry (invented by Canadian company Research in Motion), and start a Java-chat (courtesy of Calgary native James Gosling) with my buddy Alex Trebek—the Pride of Sudbury, Ontario—about their chances. In fact, cheering for Ottawa simply because they're Canadian is more difficult for me to do than unfastening my girlfriend's Wonderbra with one hand—damn you Canadian Lady Corset Company! In fact, the whole concept makes me feel sicker than an infant with a vitamin D deficiency—luckily we came up with Pabulum too.

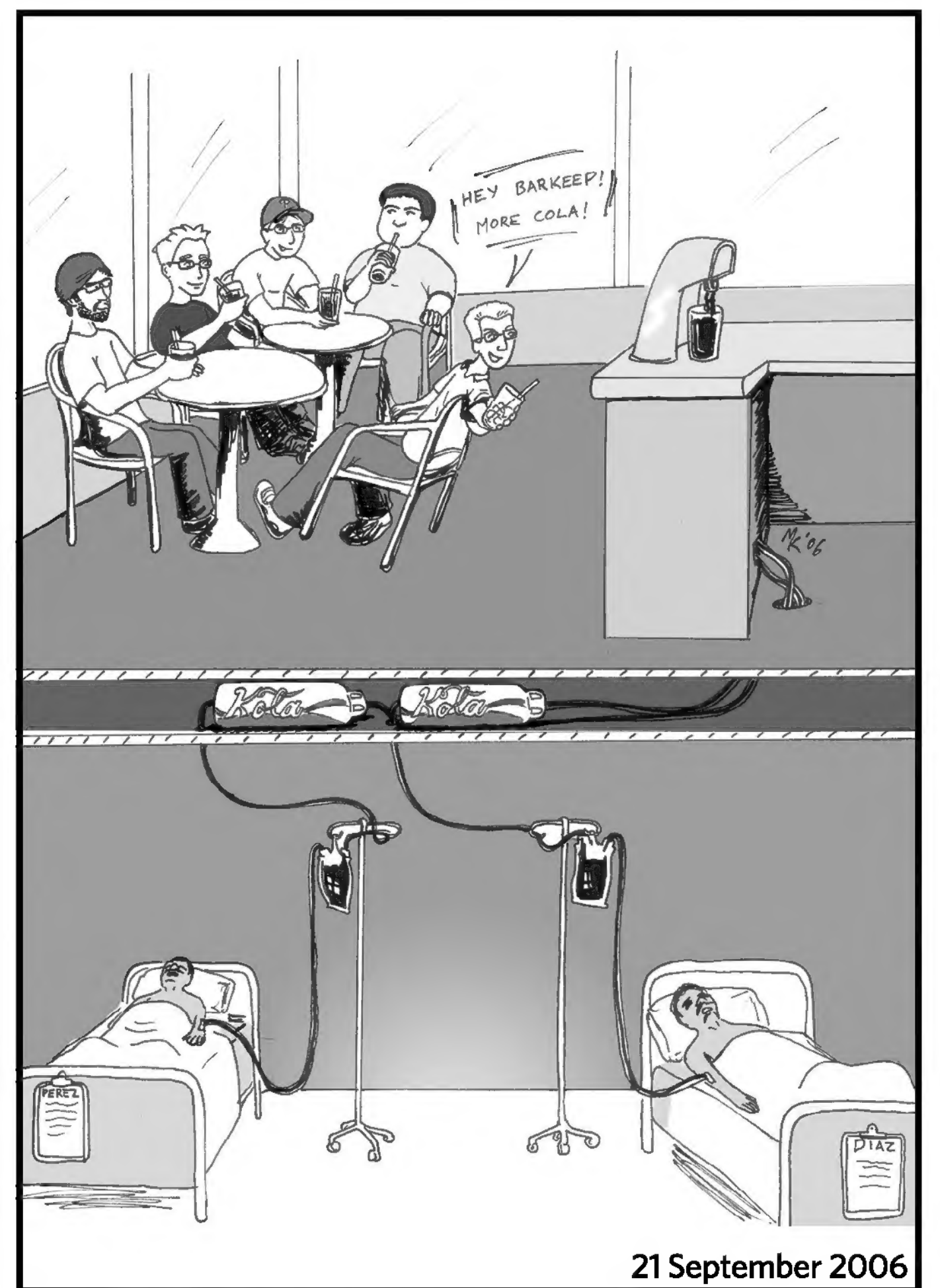
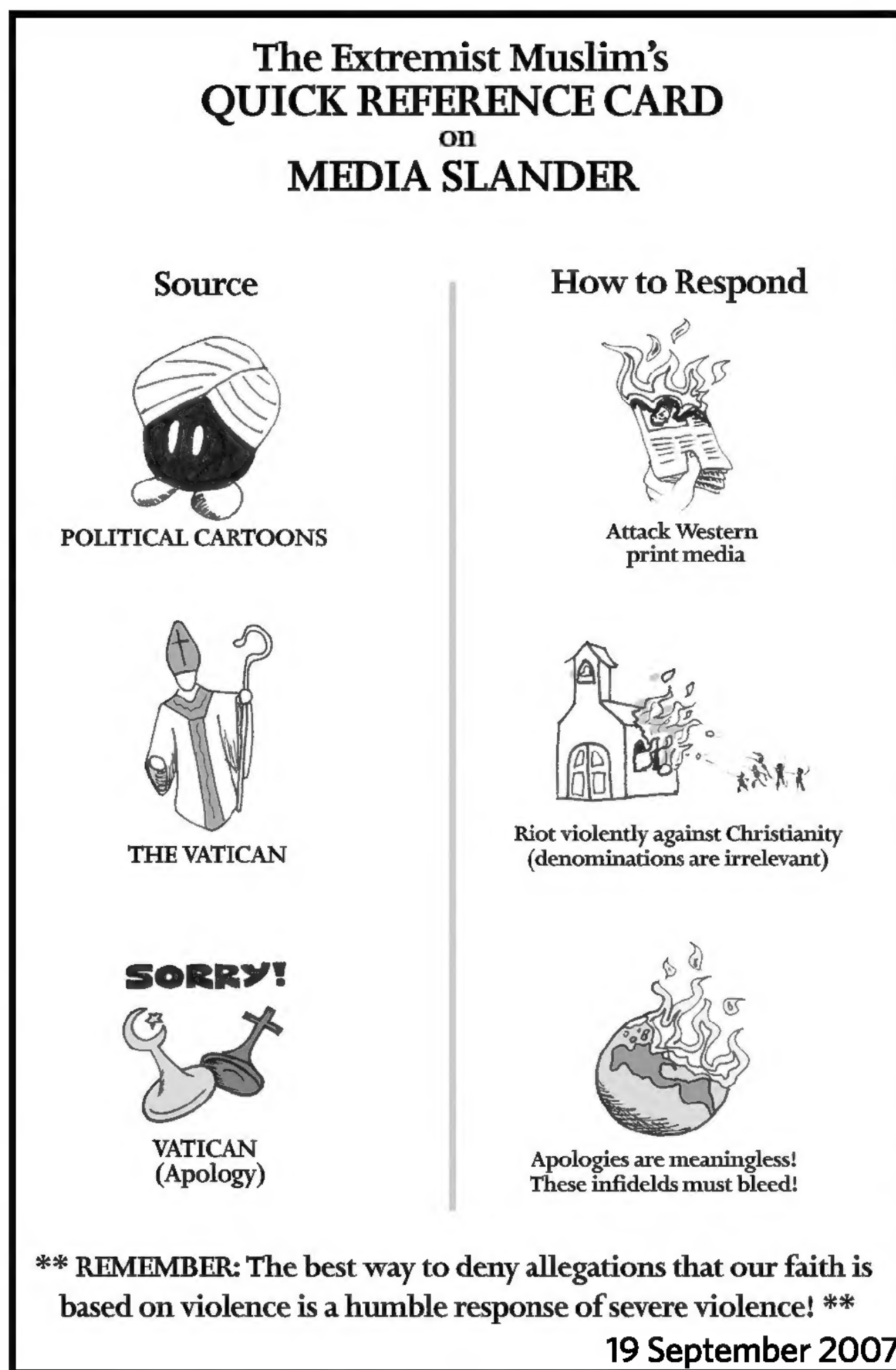
PAUL OWEN
Managing Editor

Pappa don't preach

DESPITE THE NUMBER OF BIOGRAPHIES THAT have already been written about Oprah, the TV personality was apparently "upset" that her father, Vernon Winfrey, has been writing a book about her in secret. Finding out through an inquiring newspaper's phone call probably didn't help her reaction, but really, nothing short of an actual skeleton in her closet could change the general, glowing opinion of Oprah. She holds immeasurable influence over North American women, so Oprah only has to say the word to the book's target female audience, and her father's credibility would be ripped into a million little pieces.

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The best of the Gateway Editorial cartoons 2006-2007



ILLUSTRATIONS: MIKE KENDRICK & CONAL PIERCE

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Communists are cocks

Roosters are known to have just one message to the world. Every so often one of our roosters on campus climbs to the top of the nearest dunghill and sings the rooster song which he learned from Mother Hen in Moscow.

The rooster in this case is Professor Richard Frucht, a prominent member of a local Karl Marx

Institute for Biased Anthropology Studies.

In the Monday, 6 October issue of the *Gateway*, he calls Professor Bentley on the carpet for an article which he admits that he does not understand.

But he claims that the capitalistic system is to blame for the hunger in the world. He gives a list of starving nations, beginning with India.

It is too bad that the Karl Marx Institute does not keep their handbooks up-to-date, because he could easily have seen that India, thanks to improved equipment, improved techniques, and improved seed vari-

eties now is getting in a position to feed its starving people.

What did the trick? The capitalistic system.

And what have the nations in his non-capitalistic Paradise done for the world? The huge Russian grain purchases in Canada do not seem to indicate that the non-capitalistic Paradise after 50 years of communist regime has advanced far enough to feed their own people.

I bet a good dose of capitalistic system would do the noncapitalistic farmers a lot of good; it is more fattening than propaganda, anyway.

And when he further speaks of

"the sphere of capitalistic interest, where profit is more important than people ..." I bet that he forgets about the millions and millions of Ukrainian farmers who were butchered by Stalin and associates—as revealed in a famous conversation between Stalin and Churchill. It seems that in the non-capitalistic Paradise there was something much more important than people.

Come off it, Professor Frucht. You speak about dupes. Who is really the dupe?

G HERMANSEN
10 October, 1969

Online Lectures: handy-dandy tool or just for tools?

Online lectures are one step away from Skynet and terminators



MICHELLE
CHAN

point

Apparently our undergraduate academic experience is in dire straits, which has caused a spotlight to be shone on technological innovations designed to enhance my learning ability.

In line with this, some professors have opted to make podcasts of their lectures available online for our listening pleasure. I guess that they're finally starting to accept that we all learn differently.

Some argue that this is a great idea, and that it will revolutionize learning and delivery methods; however, I question if this innovative technology is just distracting from the issue of accessible, progressive education.

Naturally, the instructors spearheading this project are enthused but have some well-thought out anxieties. There are some concerns that if lectures are made available online, absenteeism will increase.

I'm sorry to break it to the innovators, but if people don't already make an effort to go to class to listen to you talk, I'm going to logically deduce that they won't make the effort to actively listen to you on their iPods in their free time.

One student who used this resource and received an A was interviewed for comment by the *Edmonton Journal*; however, why weren't students who received a C+ or a B- asked for feedback on this revolutionary idea, when they are the ones who are in need of it.

These students are the ones who seriously need to use *innovative* resources in order to

achieve higher grades—not those who already have them. If iPods are only benefiting that top-tenth percentile who are already receiving rewards and encouragement, then the students left behind are still being left behind.

I'm not suggesting that we hold the hands of individuals who aren't attempting to achieve scholastic success (whatever that means) for themselves, but if you're going to put time, money, and energy into sustaining resources, let's try to make sure that they benefit those who need them.

In addition, attempting to encourage all instructors to use technology in teaching puts some serious restraints on academic ingenuity. If technology is promoted as the one and only way, there will be a lack of freedom in the classroom.

This will force instructors to stick to a lecture-and-PowerPoint method—which I know we all love and find intellectually orgasmic. This advancement just doesn't seem to fit with accessible, innovative "Dare to Discover" learning.

I'd like to give these technology peddling hustlers the benefit of the doubt; however, when I look at other "advancements" intended to benefit me, I can't help but be a little cynical.

Beartracks is a brutal website—I never use it because Bearscat is infinitely better and more user-friendly. WebCT has broken down on me regularly since first-year, and after spending a half-hour attempting to log in, the frustration overwhelms my desire to learn.

Let's not deny it: there are no great tangible beneficial applications of this tool except for those with a sight impairment. Personally I think that the efforts to make lectures available on MP3 players and iPods aren't going to revolutionize our undergraduate educations as it just further perpetuates a learning hierarchy that keeps the top ten in the top ten, or at least those who can afford luxury items such as iPods in addition to tuition.

You should simply stop worrying and learn to love the podcast



CONAL
PIERSE

counterpoint

I for one am highly in favour of making podcasts of lectures available online. Not only will this allow me to sleep in, but it will also greatly increase my academic freedom.

No longer will my learning be confined by stifling pants or my mid-lecture desires for pie go ignored. Finally, I will be able to listen to lectures the way God intended: as I rest my hands between songs while playing *Guitar Hero II*.

Having lectures in a to-go form means I can listen to them on my time, in my own way. Whether I'm running, commuting to a class that doesn't put lectures online, or even just taking a shit, I'll be able to keep up on my classes without ever having to actually attend them.

Besides, is there anything that could possibly psych you up more at the gym than pumping iron to a riveting lecture on art history? Not even "Danger Zone" can compete with 30 minutes on the difference between Rococo and Baroque. Well, maybe not, but you have to admit that it'd be a handy cure for insomnia.

Sure this might encourage some students to stay at home, but is that really a bad thing? If you've ever been forced to sit in the stairway of a lecture theatre due to a lack of seats, you'd welcome this with open arms (hell, spend a few lectures trying to sleep on those stairs, and you'll start to see an upside to the avian flu). Besides, the only people who are going to stop coming are the students who just sleep through the lectures anyways.

Like many other students, I long ago resigned myself to the middle of the curve because, personally, I can't be bothered to spend my nights studying. As such, it's wrong to disregard the benefits of online lectures simply because they don't help B- and C-students claw their way into the top ten—this assumes that a more helpful tool can somehow magically make you a good student.

Just as a laser-sighted super-hammer isn't going to help a shitty carpenter make a level table, neither can these podcasts make up for a student's inherent laziness.

Instead, we should focus on whether or not it will make the learning experience more enjoyable or easier. For instance, the ability to pause lectures gives you the time you need to copy down notes without getting friction burns on your arms.

Or, if at finals time you realize that your notes make absolutely no sense and tend to be full of drool spots or crudely scratched comments about the promiscuity of your mother, you can revisit those particular lectures that are giving you trouble.

You can also rewind the lecture if something is particularly unclear (or if you periodically zone out) without having to disrupt your peers by asking questions that clearly demonstrate you weren't paying attention. And really, who doesn't want to fast-forward through a professor's long-winded tangent on why they can no longer eat garlic bread?

When you think about it, there really isn't a downside to putting lectures online. The only real downside is that you might accidentally have a lecture on ants start playing while your iPod is set to shuffle.

And if, in the end, all you use these podcasts for is as an excuse to sleep in and play video-games all day while reassuring your mom that you are indeed studying, it will have been worth it.

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It ain't cheap being green



ADAM GAUMONT

With the dangerously real topics of climate change and resource depletion becoming increasingly politicized as they enter the public consciousness, it's more important than ever that institutions of higher learning such as our own become leaders in this regard. However, even if we are (perhaps mistakenly) to give the University the benefit of the doubt as to their intentions to do so, it's quickly becoming clear that its attempt at "going green" will prove difficult, if not impossible, to do.

For one thing, the University's deferred maintenance costs are through the roof, and only look to increase as construction costs go up and funding stays relatively flat. Estimated to be between \$600–900 million already, these costs are extremely prohibitive, meaning that all but the most decrepit buildings will be safe from the wrecking ball for the foreseeable future.

But it's precisely this aging infrastructure that's making the University's so-called ecological footprint (or in this case, perhaps tire-tracks is a more suitable term) a lot bigger than it ought to be.

Old, crumbling buildings designed

in the cheap-energy bonanza of the latter half of the 20th century (to say nothing of the architectural holocaust that was the 70s and 80s) guzzle huge amounts of energy resources. And as anyone who's set foot in buildings such as Tory, Rutherford, and Van Vliet can attest, they don't seem to be getting repaired or improved in any

The University doesn't even have a proper blue bin recycling program in place. Sure, there are bins for paper and pop bottles, but whither the plastics? Whither the aluminum cans?

appreciable manner either.

The University undoubtedly recognizes that these costs are both an environmental and economic burden—it pays the utility bills each month, after all. And while it has traditionally made more economic sense for the University to pay these relatively inexpensive bills than to pay for new infrastructure altogether, now that there's a real incentive for it to clean up its act, there's an almost insurmountable financial burden that's preventing this from happening.

For their part, the Students' Union has recently begun lobbying the government to assist with paying for these costs both in the form of a one-time payment and continual funding.

It's a valiant effort—one that surely pertains to students and the price of education—but, given the SU's track record for asking the province for money, I for one am not getting my hopes up.

At the same time, I also question whether the University really is motivated to lessen its environmental impact. Forget for a moment the massive fleet of service vehicles that the University employs—it doesn't even have a proper blue-bin recycling program in place. Sure, there are bins for paper and pop bottles, but whither the plastics? Whither the aluminum cans?

To be fair, a few less milk jugs in a landfill isn't going to make a big difference in the long run—to effect real change, progress needs to be made on a much bigger scale.

What will make a big difference, then, are projects like extending the LRT line, which will take hundreds of cars off the road daily upon its completion. To its credit, the University was a leader in bringing the LRT here back in 1992, and it's playing a big part in sending it southwards into 2009 as well.

But in order to remain an environmental leader, the University has, quite simply, to do everything right. Getting a large windfall of cash from the province would be a welcome relief for the deferred maintenance costs, but one-time bonuses can't be counted on.

Instead, the University needs to clean up some of its own messes—and it can start by doing some long-overdue deconstruction.

Canada must address Native issues



PATRICK ROSS

As the summer months are setting in, so is something else that has become synonymous with summer in Canadian politics: Aboriginal discontent.

Last summer, native protesters in Caledonia, Ontario grabbed headlines by taking control of the road leading into a condominium development being built on land that was disputed under a land claim. Earlier this spring, Native protesters blocked a rail line in Ontario, and more is on the way according to Assembly of First Nations Chief Phil Fontaine.

Aside from unresolved land claims, demands for greater self-government on issues related to cultural autonomy, and the never-ending fight against assimilation, one issue stands above the others in terms of its implications for equality in Canada: the issue of devastating poverty in Canadian Native reservations.

Third-world poverty exists in Canada today on many of its Native reserves. This reflects what NYU economics professor William Easterly calls the "first tragedy" of poverty: that people should be forced to live in such conditions in the first place.

Yet the failure of decades of government spending on poverty alleviation in native reservations—totalling in the billions of dollars over a period of

decades—reflects Easterly's "second tragedy" of poverty: that so many resources can be devoted to alleviating poverty with so little discernible result.

In the end, what becomes immediately apparent is that the ways in which Canada has tried to address this problem haven't worked. The fact that we may be facing a summer of road-blocks and railway sabotage is proof of this. Therefore, it's clearly time to try something different.

A popular complaint among Canada's aboriginals is that, all too often, they've been treated as wards of the state. As with any other group, they want to govern themselves and decide their own destiny. Aboriginals have long claimed to possess the right of self-government due to their inhabitancy of Canada prior to the European colonization.

While various measures of self-governance have been granted to aboriginals, perhaps it's time to satisfy these demands by reorganizing Canada's various treaty areas into de facto provinces, each of which would be required to sign into Confederation as a condition of the deal.

The Department of Indian Affairs would, by necessity, be abolished, its funding replaced by transfer payments to the new provinces. These new provinces would also gain taxation powers over their residents, enabling them to build their communities on their own terms, without dependence on outside funding.

Most importantly, Canada's aboriginals would finally be able to enter Confederation with dignity. Such a solution could be thought of as a ver-

sion of Chretien and Trudeau's "citizens plus" model that may prove more acceptable to Aboriginals by respecting their cultural autonomy while granting them the rights and responsibilities that come with citizenship.

The risks of such a move are numerous. The federal government's last experiment with constitutional reform—Brian Mulroney's Meech Lake and Charlottetown Accords—ended disastrously, with the portions of Canadian society they were intending to conciliate left feeling more alienated than ever.

Even if successful, organizing Canada's Native peoples into more powerful political entities would allow them to agitate for separation from Canada if they so chose.

Then there's the demands for new powers and privileges for other segments of the Canadian population that inevitably comes with reopening the constitution (ironically, it was Elijah Harper, an Aboriginal Manitoba MLA, who torpedoed the Meech Lake Accord because he didn't feel it contained enough for Canada's aboriginals—and Quebecers could well return the favour).

It's almost impossible to please everyone, and the amending formula for Canada's constitution requires that the federal government at least do the next best thing.

Whatever the solution adopted, the bottom line is that the government can't force any resolution on Canada's aboriginals by decree. Any proposed solution must be acceptable to aboriginals. In the end, the decision—and the responsibility for that decision—must be theirs.

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Fischer uses River Valley to leave her own imprint

Using copper-etching and ink, printmaker Kyla Fischer hopes her MFA works provide a mesmerizing break from the rat race

A Trace of Passage

MFA Printmaking Show
Runs until 9 June
FAB Gallery

NICOLE CARGILL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Kyla Fischer is capping off her four-year tenure towards a Masters degree in Fine Arts with an engaging exhibit at the FAB gallery. A Trace of Passage, her latest compilation of work, was mainly inspired by Edmonton's own North Saskatchewan River Valley.

"I take long walks in the River Valley where I am drawn to the details of textures and surfaces," Fischer says. "These experiences leave me in awe of the beauty I see around me, and I am led to contemplate the transient nature of human existence."

The River Valley inspiration isn't outright or obvious—even a seasoned valley connoisseur may be hard-pressed to see the connection. Fischer photographs the images quite close up; then, using a technique called copper etching, she etches the images onto a copper plate using an acid bath. Finally, she adds ink and transfers the images to paper.

"The original visual cues of a realistic photographic image are stripped away," Fischer explains. "The color is reduced to monochrome, the compositions are cropped, and the scale is skewed to be larger or smaller than the original."

Creating the prints in such a way is very process-oriented. Unlike paint-



KYLA SAYS RELAX The works on display in Fischer's A Trace of Passage are meant to evoke feelings of self-awareness and reflection.

ing, where the results of oils on a canvas are immediate, there are many steps involved in printmaking. Fischer admits she enjoys the monotony and meditative effects of the process, the physical nature of the work, and the breathtaking results that come with it. She's most proud of a group of five large prints she feels best encapsulate the simplicity and fluidity she

felt herself drawn to in the outdoors. By removing what she calls "excess noise" within the photographs, Fischer attempts to bring the bare essence of her idea to the forefront.

"The images are not a mere documentation of nature, but an unfolding of—and perhaps an opportunity for—a spiritual experience," She muses.

With her MFA now in hand,

Fischer will teach printmaking classes and continue to hone her craft at a printmaking studio in downtown Edmonton. But with A Trace of Passage, Fischer hopes that her audience connects with the meditative quality of the exhibit. Paring down the images to their essence is her attempt to move away from usual printmaking visuals and bring about

internal reflection in gallery-goers. The sparse images on display are meant to remove the hubbub of the everyday and use the natural environment to give a person the chance to relax and reflect.

"This work presents a reconnection to nature while providing a place of quietness and stillness that our lives are often lacking," Fischer says.

TARASTIEGLITZ

Lacuna Coil hotter, more malleable than other metal bands

Lacuna Coil

The Hottest Chicks in Metal tour,
With The Gathering, In This Moment,
and Stolen Babies
Thursday, 25 May @ 8 PM
Dinwoodie Lounge

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Lacuna Coil is a metal act with a soft side. The six-piece band may have taken part in such thrash-happy festivals as Ozzfest, but unlike their head-banging contemporaries, they aren't afraid to break out the acoustic guitar every once in a while.

"We started doing [acoustic shows] because the radio stations wanted us to play live in the studio, and usually they don't have much room and couldn't fit all the equipment," singer Andrea Ferro explains. "So we stripped down versions of our songs, and then it seemed that people really liked it."

The band, hailing from Italy, features dual male-female vocals courtesy of Ferro and Cristina Scabbia; Cristiano Migliore and Marco Biazzi on guitars; Marco Zelati on bass; and Cristiano Mozzati on drums. The acoustic show is a new addition to the band's repertoire, as Lacuna Coil been touting their ethereal metal set around Europe for more than a decade. They've taken some small stabs at North America, but "the Hottest Chicks in Metal Tour," is Lacuna Coil's first headlining stint on this side of the Atlantic.

"We always had very good offers

for supporting tours [overseas], and when you support, you always sell records, so the label was always pushing for support gigs," Ferro says. "[Supporting shows are] where you perform to people who don't know you. A headlining show is more for your fans ... we've had this idea that you have to establish yourself for a headlining show. We've had several years to do this, and now it's time to build the name of the band as a headliner."

"It's cool to have a variety of people who listen to your music because it means you've been able to touch different aspects of music listeners, and not just be the band that only the tough metal guys listen to."

"Of course it's kind of a stupid title," Ferro admits, about the Hottest Chicks in Metal moniker. "It's made on purpose. It's a way of saying, 'This is something different.' [The tour] is also supported by [metal magazine] Revolver, so it's just an excuse to say, 'you should check it out.' The title gets people talking, and it works pretty well."

Dubiously titled as it may be, the tour is giving Lacuna Coil an opportunity to perform both their metal

act and their stripped-down songs across the country. Aside from the plugged-in evening shows, the band's stopping by various instrument stores across the continent to do their acoustic set, hold question periods with fans, and even raffle off guitars—"to encourage people to play music," Ferro explains—courtesy of a partnership with Ovation guitars. It's at these smaller gigs, away from amps and patch cords, that Ferro believes Lacuna Coil can prove something to crowds.

"[The acoustic performances] are a way of showing people that even if you're a metal band, and use a lot of arrangement and heavy guitars in songs, you can still play a stripped-down version and make it sound good," Ferro points out.

According to him, the acoustic stops have been surprisingly popular, too, which he sees as a testament to the depth of fans that the band is capable of pulling in. It appears that Lacuna Coil are making themselves quite at home in North America, with audiences of all ages and types.

"Our audience is not only solely the metal crowd," Ferro clarifies. "Mostly, probably, but we also have a lot of people who just like rock music or who are just musically open-minded ... we have people who bring their sons or daughters to the shows. So it's cool to have a variety of people who listen to your music because it means you've been able to touch different aspects of music listeners, and not just be the band that only the tough metal guys listen to."

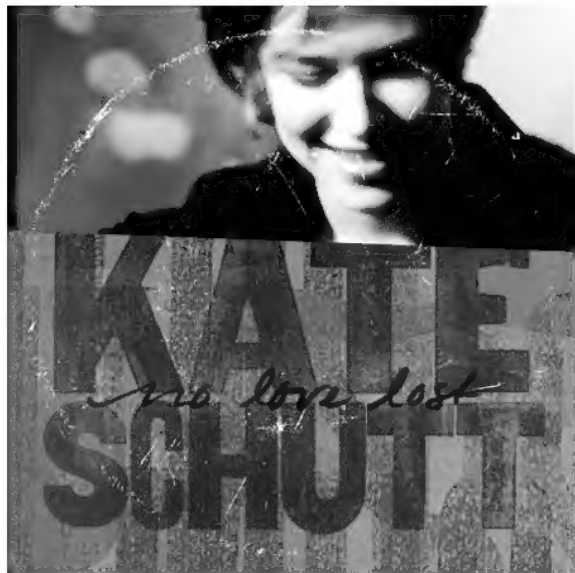




Stars
Do You Trust Your Friends?
Arts & Crafts
<http://www.arts-crafts.ca/stars>

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

When Stars’ new album showed up at the Gateway office, no one really knew what to think of it. The album art, consisting of a dozen other band names, drew only looks of confusion. After pondering over the contents of the disc for a while, I put it in the hands of our Editor-in-Chief



Kate Schutt
No Love Lost
Wild Whip Records
www.kateschutt.com

LEAH TRUEBLOOD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Kate Schutt’s new album *No Love Lost* has many of the components of a very good CD, but doesn’t

and left the office. Upon returning, he was gone, but the CD sat on my desk with a sticky attached that read: “Look closer. It’s fucking awesome.” How right he was.

Do You Trust Your Friends? straddles the line between being a remix album and a cover album. Consisting of all of the songs on Stars’ 2004 release, *Set Yourself on Fire*, the music on the new disc has been completely taken apart and reassembled by Stars’ peers. The Dears, Final Fantasy, Apostle of Hustle, and The Stills (among others) lend their musical talent to reimagine Stars’ songs.

The result is an album worlds apart from *Set Yourself on Fire*. When listened to back-to-back, *Do You Trust Your Friends?* clearly has a stronger disconnection between the vocals and the music. There are moments when instruments seem to run off on rhythmic tangents while the original vocals provide the backing for them.

With such sonic diversity from beginning to end, *Do You Trust Your Friends?* stays captivating and engaging through its whole playback—a feat rarely accomplished, and proof that Stars keep some pretty trustworthy company.

manage to make all of its pieces fit together. Schutt takes some surprising aesthetic risks in her compositions, and some of these risks result in excellent music, such as the dramatic trumpet accompaniment in “The Young.” In other tracks like “Moon Got Broken,” Schutt uses a soulful, rhythmic, and enticing melody to draw the listener in and then tie them up in knots. She has a story-telling knack, and when she uses her gift to its full potential in “Glamorous Life,” her New Age spin pleasantly spices up what could have been a predictable storyline. Some songs, however, just don’t seem to come together for Schutt. Poor choices, like the out-of-place harmonica solo in “Wrecking Ball,” are all too common and could quickly distance listeners from some of her songs. Random saxophone riffs in the midst of lyrics do not a good song make. Schutt’s musical choices sometimes result in disaster, but enough of them pay off to make *No Love Lost* worth a casual listen.



STEFFI ROSSKOPF

WHERE IS THE LOVE? There’s some major woe going down in Studio Theatre’s *After the Fall*.



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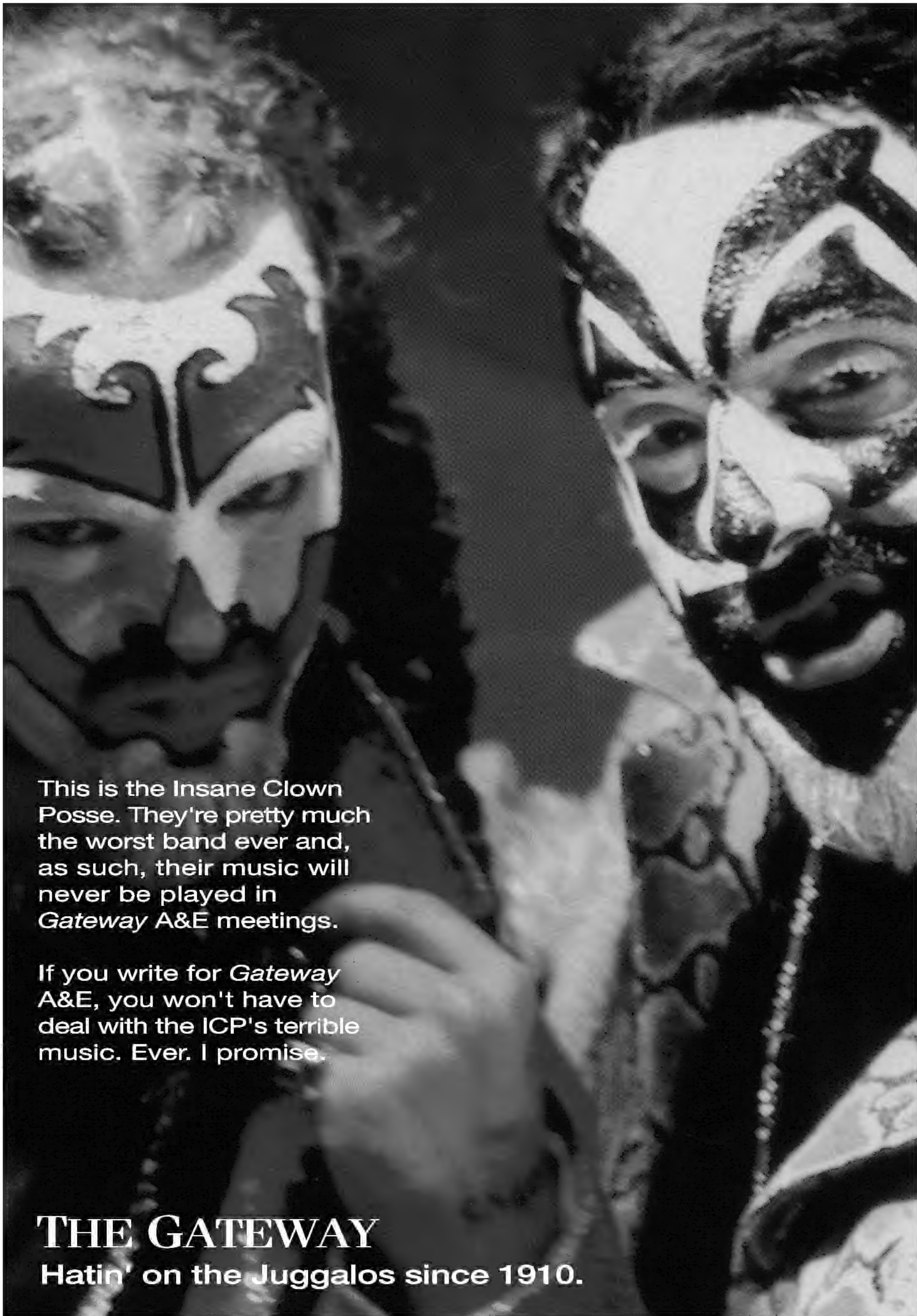
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